

ORIGINAL PHOTOGRAPHS OF

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

Published by GEORGE B. AYRES, Artist, Philadelphia.

"This is the real Lincoln,"—*Bishop Charles H. Fowler.*

"Yours is the Lincoln for posterity,"—*A. W. Drake, of THE CENTURY.*

"The most literal and characteristic portrait of them all,"—*Wm. H. Herndon, Esq.*

The growing fame of ABRAHAM LINCOLN has created a universal desire for an unquestionable, true, and satisfactory likeness of him.

The photographs of LINCOLN which I have the honor to offer the people of the United States, have now become the accepted and *standard* portrait—and the test of all others.

My pictures are not tendered in the ordinary sense of furnishing a mere *likeness*; but as something wholly unique, implicitly true, positively rare, and not to be obtained from any other source; as my negatives, so far as known, are the only ante-presidential ones (1860) in existence!

No skill of hand—whether it be a painting, engraving, or any kind of art-production—can at all compare with the realism and fidelity of these PHOTOGRAPHS FROM LIFE!

Every line, spot, wrinkle, and peculiar characteristic of Mr. Lincoln's remarkable countenance, are found unchanged and strictly natural in my pictures.

THE ORIGINALS.

I have two negatives; taken at Springfield, Ill., in June, 1860, immediately after Mr. Lincoln's nomination to the Presidency. They were made at one sitting, but show Mr. Lincoln from two different points of view.

The simple incident of my having brought these negatives away from Chicago, in 1867, happily preserved them from destruction in the Great Fire of 1871. [See my circular, "History of the Negatives."]

Negative No. 1.

Represents Mr. Lincoln's face almost in profile. The pose is most happily chosen as showing his peculiar facial characteristics—the full, high forehead and its wealth of hair, the shaggy eyebrows, "the lone mole," the hollow cheek and massive jaw, the lip awry,—and above all, the sculpturesque nose, beautifully defined against the background.*

These rugged features, softened by a kindly expression of the eyes, combine to render this view not only acceptable and wholly satisfying, but the acknowledged test and leader of all Lincoln portraiture.

*Mr. Lincoln's nose was his most conspicuous feature. Therefore, any representation of him that fails to give sufficient prominence to it—owing to a bad pose or improper lighting—cannot be deemed a good and satisfactory portrait.

Negative No. 2.

Presents a full three-quarter view, almost to the front, showing both cheeks, and the robust form. It includes all the features as detailed in No. 1, with somewhat more animated expression—emphasizing the massive angularity of Mr. Lincoln's face, and impressively suggesting the idea of his physical strength.

Although there appears nothing to indicate which of the two negatives was taken first, there is everything to prove that they were made at one sitting. The noticeable similarity of fold and wrinkle in the clothing of each, shows that the difference of view is attributable merely to a change of the camera's position—Mr. Lincoln retaining his position for both negatives.

MY TESTIMONIALS.

No such mass of generous testimony as that which I have gathered from Mr. Lincoln's relatives and most intimate personal and political associates—those who knew him best throughout his career as citizen, lawyer, and politician—has ever been accorded in praise of any other likenesses of him.

Beginning with the approval of Mr. Lincoln himself, the testimonialists will be found to include only those fully competent to judge the truthfulness of any portrait.

William H. Herndon, Esq.—Lincoln's Law-partner.

Major H. C. Whitney—Author of "Life on the Circuit with Lincoln."

Hon. John Hay—now Secretary of State, and

Col. John G. Nicolay—formerly Lincoln's Private Secretaries.

Mrs. Emily Todd Helm—a sister of Mrs. Lincoln.

Hon. Joseph Medill—Editor of the *Chicago Tribune*.

Mr. John B. Drake—Proprietor of the "Tremont House," Chicago.

Mr. Wm. Osborn Stoddard—Author, and a Secretary at the White House.

Hon. Robert M. Hitt—Congressman from Illinois, and

Horace White, Esq.—both Correspondents, with Lincoln in 1858.

Mr. Leonard W. Volk—Sculptor of Lincoln Statues, from life.

Mr. Oliver C. Fordham—a favorite companion of Lincoln's, in Chicago.

Gen. R. M. Wallace, Hon. Lyman Trumbull, David Quigg, Esq., Hon.

Jas. R. Doolittle—all professional associates of Lincoln's in Chicago.

General John M. Palmer—of Illinois, ex-U. S. Senator.

Hon. Daniel W. Voorhees—former U. S. Senator from Indiana.

Hon. Shelby M. Cullom—U. S. Senator from Illinois.

Hon. Carl Schurz—of New York, our noted German-American.

Hon. Justin S. Morrill—of Stratford, Vt., long in Congressional service.

Hon. Henry W. Blodgett—of Waukegan, Ill., ex-U. S. District Judge.

Col. A. K. McClure—formerly Editor of *The Times*, Philadelphia.

Hon. J. O. Cunningham—of Urbana, Ill., a fellow-lawyer.

Mr. T. H. Bartlett—Sculptor and well-known Art-Lecturer, of Boston.

Hon. Clark E. Carr—of Galesburg, Ill., Lincoln's Minister to Denmark.
 Mr. Noah Brooks—contributor to *The Century Magazine*, New York.
 Hiram Beckwith, Esq.—of Danville, Ill., a law-student under Lincoln.
 Mr. Wm. B. Wilson—Lincoln's War-Telegrapher, at Washington, 1862.
 Hon. John M. Scott—of Bloomington, Illinois, ex-Chief Justice.
 Mr. Charles "Carleton" Coffin—of Boston, noted War-Correspondent.
 Mr. James W. Somers—Washington City, an old lawyer-friend.
 Bishop Charles H. Fowler, D.D., LL.D.—knew Lincoln intimately.
 Hon. James F. Hughes—Judge, Mattoon, Illinois.
 General John H. Littlefield—of Brooklyn, N. Y.
 John J. Hall—of Campbell, Ill., Lincoln's second cousin.
 John T. Hanks, Canyonville, Oregon; Mrs. Amanda Poorman, Mattoon, Ill.; Mrs. Harriet A. Chapman and Mrs. Sarah Jane Dowling, Charleston, Ill.; Mrs. Nancy M. Shoaff, Paris, Ill.—brothers and sisters—aged children of Dennis T. Hanks, Lincoln's favorite cousin—all unite in personal testimony to this likeness of him they affectionately called "Uncle Abe."

 A circular containing extracts from these "golden opinions," and also a "History of the Negatives," are given with every picture.

MY OWN WORK.

The effect of time and rough usage on the old negatives—until they came into my possession, forty years ago—makes necessary a certain amount of delicate and careful ARTIST (brush) WORK on the prints, simply in order to render them complete and perfect as *photographs*.

But this finishing is done very judiciously, and *without affecting the original accuracy of the portrait* in the least degree!

It is obvious, therefore, that the additional artist-work necessarily prevents my Lincolns from ever becoming common—or cheap in price.

Thus we have the truth of the originals in combination with high artistic finish, giving to the lovers of Lincoln *the very best representation of him!*

SIZES AND PRICES.

Platinum prints, 8x10 inches (size of the original negatives), \$5. Plain ("old-fashioned") photographs, 8x10 inches, \$3.

Platinum prints, 8x10 size, when ordered from both negatives as a pair, \$9; Plain prints, ditto, \$5.

Platinum prints of either portraits, on best quality of heavy French paper, 20½x27 inches, mounted on 22x28 card, \$15. These are clear and distinct *contact* prints, obtained from negatives (22x28) enlarged direct from the originals, made by Mr. William H. Rau, the distinguished Philadelphia photographer. They are practically life-size, and beyond question the most striking heads of Lincoln extant!

All my Lincolns are Copyright!

They Can Be Obtained Through Any First-class Picture Dealer, or Direct From

GEORGE B. AYRES, Artist.

PHILADELPHIA, PENNA.

